

Dynasties of Ancient China

After the Shang dynasty was overthrown, three other dynasties developed.

1. Zhou Dynasty 1122 - 256 B.C.
2. Qin Dynasty 316 - 206 B.C.
3. Han Dynasty 206 B.C. - 220 A.D

Zhou

- * Ruled a very small part of China
- * Fought with other states for more power
- * Eventually, the Zhou lost control and their dynasty collapsed.

Qin (Chin)

- * Started China's first strong central government.
- * Dynasty only lasted 15 years because of harsh laws and high taxes.
- * This dynasty started construction of the Great Wall of China. It was built to keep invaders out.

Han

- * One of the largest dynasties!!!
- * Opened China up to trade with foreign countries.
- * Built the Silk Road, which links China with Europe.